

# EUROPEAN DEFENCE FUND

# **Co-financing declaration**

**Tutorial** 

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### **EDF Co-financing declaration (tutorial) 1/6**



#### Co-financing is an eligibility condition for EDF Development actions:

• Legal basis: Art. 21.1 EDF Regulation:

The consortium shall demonstrate that the costs of an action that are not covered by Union support are to be covered by other means of financing, such as by Member States' or associated countries' contributions or co-financing from legal entities.

• EDF 2025 Call conditions (section 5) make mandatory to provide, with the application, a Co-financing declaration:

Please note that failing to provide all mandatory annexes in the requested format by the proposal submission deadline may render your proposal inadmissible (or lead to other negative consequences [...]).

### **EDF Co-financing declaration (tutorial) 2/6**

Until EDF calls 2024, co-financing eligibility condition was **implemented** as follow:

- Declaration was to be provided using the available **COM template or** alternatively (with same level of information) using a **Letter of Intent (Lol).**
- COM verified the amounts of co-financing declared, however:
  - No information on timing was requested nor provided
  - Received declarations often included a disclaimer :

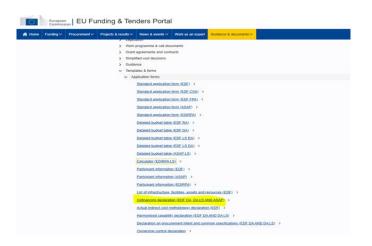
"This document does not constitute a legally binding commitment, neither under national law nor under international law. Any related legal or financial commitment will be subject to establishment of appropriate international instrument(s), which will be subject to the respective national approval".

• This led to increasingly visible legal and financial insecurity, both for COM and industry.

# **EDF Co-financing declaration (tutorial) 3/6**

To remedy this situation, the co-financing declaration template was updated for 2025 calls

- Use of the template (for co-financing) is now mandatory (no Lol on co-financing will now on be admitted, but the Lols for other eligibility criteria may continue to be used).
- Template is published in the Funding and tender portal: <u>EU Funding & Tenders Portal</u> (under Application forms)



# **EDF Co-financing declaration (tutorial) 4/6**

#### What is new for EDF calls 2025?

3 new fields were introduced:



- Indicative date of availability of the co-financing
- **Description of process and timeline**: Field to describe the process and associated timeline showing how the planned date of availability will be met (taken positively into account for Award criteria 8 evaluation\*).
- Expected IPR-related return on the project results for the co-financer: Field where the co-financer describes the expected arrangements relating to IPR returns on project results.

### **EDF Co-financing declaration (tutorial) 5/6**



#### What remains the same for EDF calls 2025?

The status of the financial commitment is evolutive: select between 2 options "confirmed" OR "to be confirmed".

- At submission stage, the co-financing declaration MUST be submitted, but the amounts
  may still be uncertain, therefore the co-financer can decide to select the status option "to be
  confirmed" at a later stage.
- In such case, the confirmation MUST be submitted (via the same co-financing template), as early as possible during **Grant agreement preparation (GAP).**
- Effect of the confirmation: a confirmed declaration means that COM expects that funds are made available in a timely manner to allow the proper implementation of the project and that all possible steps are undertaken to that end.



Reminder: <u>if at GAP stage at the latest, the Co-financing declaration is not</u> confirmed, the proposal may be declared ineligible.

### **EDF Co-financing declaration (tutorial) 6/6**



#### Added-value of the new Co-financing declaration template for EDF calls 2025:

- Providing the date of availability of the co-financing will constitute an incentive for the co-financer(s) to better plan the co-financing.
- Providing detailed co-financing process and timeline as well as IPR plans will constitute:
  - <u>For MS co-financer</u>: an incentive to early start planning and preparing the co-financing framework and contract, in coordination with the applicants.
  - For proposal evaluators: further information for the evaluation of award criteria 8.
  - For applicants: increased transparency about co-financing plans and IPR expectations.



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